Letter from the Mayor

Congratulations to John Nelson, Jr, and the Detroit Housing Commission board and staff for their excellent accomplishments in improving public housing in the City of Detroit. The Commission has taken important steps in transforming public housing into a source of community pride with the completion of modernization work at Warren West and the development of HOPE VI plans. The future holds much promise as we create mixed-income communities that will provide opportunities for residents to improve their living conditions as well as their lives. DHC's plans will enable the Commission to accomplish its mission of rebuilding neighborhoods.

I am especially pleased that the Commission has emphasized entrepreneurial development and economic enhancement activities for public housing residents. The Commission has created several new resident-owned businesses and it has instituted a procurement program which provides greater access to agency contracts. DHC's Pre-Apprenticeship Program provides employment opportunities in skilled trades. The JobNet partnership has improved the job search process by linking employees and prospective residents/workers providing the means to economic uplift and well being.

I am also proud of the accomplishments made in enabling our young public housing residents to participate in community building activities through the Youth Tenant Council, the Black College Tour, the Midnight Basketball Program and other youth-oriented activities. These programs are investments in human potential that will pay profound and long lasting dividends in the future of the City of Detroit.

I look forward to seeing continued accomplishments from the Commission in the future.

Sincerely Yours,

Dennis W. Archer Mayor City of Detroit



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